

TOP SECRET

TS-158783 ✓

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**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Project Director of Operations 8 March 1957

**SUBJECT :** Estimate of Soviet Bloc High Altitude Interception Capabilities

1. You will be interested in the attached estimate of Soviet interception capabilities. As you will note, the conclusions support our hope that the risk of interception would not be serious during the forthcoming operational season. If you are or become aware of any evidence which would appear to be inconsistent with this estimate, I would like to be so advised. If the evidence seems important, I would hope it could be discussed with the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence and those of his staff who have prepared the attached estimate.

2. I would like to see your recommendation as to the dissemination of any part or all of the attachment to our three Detachments for the benefit of the pilots. It might well be interesting and encouraging to them and would serve as proof that the intelligence community is continuously reviewing the danger of interception. If you conclude that such dissemination would be desirable, I would appreciate if you would directly, or through the Security Officer, find out from the AD/SI whether there are any security objections to such a dissemination. I would hope that we could take a relatively lenient view of the security problems likely to be incurred.

*g/m*  
**RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.**  
Project Director

Attachment:  
Copy 1 of TS-158851

RMB:djm

1-Addressee

2-Dep. Pro. Dir.

3-Security Officer

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5-Pro. Dir. Chrono

6-Pro. Chrono

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